

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 231404

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

66623

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:SNYDER

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:KURZE

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION: S/S-O ONLY

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S E C R E T STATE 231404

EXDIS - DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

### 1. PALESTINIAN DELEGATION TO THE ME PEACE CONFERENCE?

EMBASSY TEL AVIV IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE SOVIET TREND TOWARD A SPEARATE PALESTINIAN DELEGATION TO THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE. THE EMBASSY FEELS THE SOVIETS ARE ON A COLLISION COURSE WHICH COULD MAKE THE PRESENCE OF THE ISRAELI DELEGATION DOUBTFUL. THE ISRAELIS, IN ADDITION TO THEIR AVERSION FOR THE FEDAYEEN, ARE EXTREMELY SUSPICIOUS OF SOVIET INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE. THEY SUSPECT THE SOVIETS ENVISAGE A RUMP PALESTINE IN THE WEST BUNC AND THE GAZA STRIP WHICH WOULD BE A SOVIET SATELLITE. (SECRET) TEL AVIV 9478, 11/24 (EXDI ZLMV

### 2. EGYPT'S WAR MINISTER ON PEACE AND WAR

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 231404

MEETING WITH CODE STRATTON IN CAIRO, EGYPTIAN WAR MINISTER ISMAIL REMARKED THAT THE ISRAELI FORCES ON THE WEST BANK OF THE CANAL ARE IN A PRECARIOUS POSITION AND FACE ENCLOSURE IF FIGHTING RESUMES AND THE EGYPTIAN 2ND ARMY CHOOSES TO

MOVE SOUTH FROM ISMAILIA TO THE BITTER LAKE. ISMAIL REJECTED THE ISRAELI IDEA OF A MUTUAL WITHDRAWAL TO OCTOBER 5 LINES AND THOUGH A SEPARATION OF FORCES SHOULD OCCUR ON THE EAST BANK AFTER ISRAEL RETIRES TO ITS OCTOBER 22 POSITIONS. USINT CAIRO COMMENTS THAT THE WAR MINISTER'S VIEWS SEEM TO ENVISAGE A DEMILITARIZATION OF THE SINAI WHICH WOULD EXCLUDE EGYPTIAN UNITS ALREADY ON THE SCENE. (CONFIDENTIAL) CAIRO 3627, 11/24.

3. NO SAUDI-SOVIET RELATIONS FOR NOW

SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SAQQAF INFORMED EMBASSY JIDDA THAT, IN SPITE OF REPORTS TO THE CONTRARY. SAUDI ARABIA IS NOT ABOUT TO RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THIS WOULD NOT HAPPEN, HE ADDED, AS LONG AS FAISAL IS KING EVEN THOUGH THE KING-

DOM HAS BEEN UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM OTHER ARAB STATES TO RENEW RELATIONS WITH THE USSR. (CONFIDENTIAL) JIDDA 5178, 11/24.

4. ARABS TO TREAT JAPAN LIKE EC COMMUNITY

SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SAQQAF HAS TOLD EMBASSY JIDDA THAT JAPAN WILL BE PLACED IN THE SAME POSITION AS MOST OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY REGARDING OIL CUTBACKS. CALLING TOKYO'S STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION "VERY SATISFACTORY". SAYQAF SAID JAPAN WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM THE FIVE PERCENT CUTBACK AS OF DECEMBER 1, BUT WILL NOT ENJOY THE STATUS OF A PREFERRED STATE. (CONFIDENTIAL) JIDDA 5181, 11/25.

5. COUP IN GREECE

ON NOVEMBER 24 THE GREEK ARMY OUSTED PRESIDENT POPADOPOULOS, SEIZED CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT, AND  
SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 231404

IMPOSED AN AROUND-THE-CLOCK CURFEW IN ATHENS AND THESSALONIKI. ON NOVEMBER 25 A NEW GOVERNMENT WJS SWORN IN WITH LT. GEN. PHAIDON GIZIKIS AS PRESIDENT, THE CURFEW WAS LIFTED, AND THE SITUATION WAS QUIET WITH

THE COUP LEADERS FIRMLY IN CONTROL. (SECRET) GREECE WORKING GROUP SITUATION REPORTS 1 AND 2, 11/25-26 (EXDIS).  
KISSINGER

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 11 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SITREP, POLITICAL SUMMARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**DecapTION Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**DecapTION Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY EXDIS  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <19-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, XX  
**To:** JCS SECDEF  
CIA  
WHITE HOUSE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005